NEW AVENGERS

DUSTIN WEAVER + Keith

ALL-NEW MARVEL NOW!

HICKMAN
SCHITI
MARTIN

020

PREVIOUSLY IN NEW AVENGERS

I AM TIRED OF WATCHING OTHERS MAKE CHOICES OF CONSEQUENCE WHILE I DO NOTHING. IF I AM TO BE DAMNED BY THESE DECISIONS, LET IT BE BY USING ALL THE RESOURCES AT THE DISPOSAL OF A SORCERER SUPREME.

I AM NOT A PAWN.

I AM *THE DOCTOR.*

THERE HAVE BEEN A SERIES OF CONTRACTIONS SMASHING TWO UNIVERSES LIKE EACH OF OURS TOGETHER AT THE INCURSION POINT: EARTH. EITHER BOTH EARTHS ARE DESTROYED OR ONE IS SACRIFICED, SPARING BOTH UNIVERSES.

WHAT PLANS COULD ANYONE HAVE FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS?

WE HAVE A BOMB THAT CAN DESTROY A PLANET.

SO YOU'RE ATTEMPTING TO BE THE MOST MORAL MASS MURDERERS IN HISTORY.

WHY DON'T WE TALK ABOUT OPTIONS INSTEAD OF WORST-CASE SCENARIOS?

OF COURSE. WE WANT TO BELIEVE WE'RE NOT CAPABLE OF THE UNTHINKABLE.

NAMOR-- DON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD.

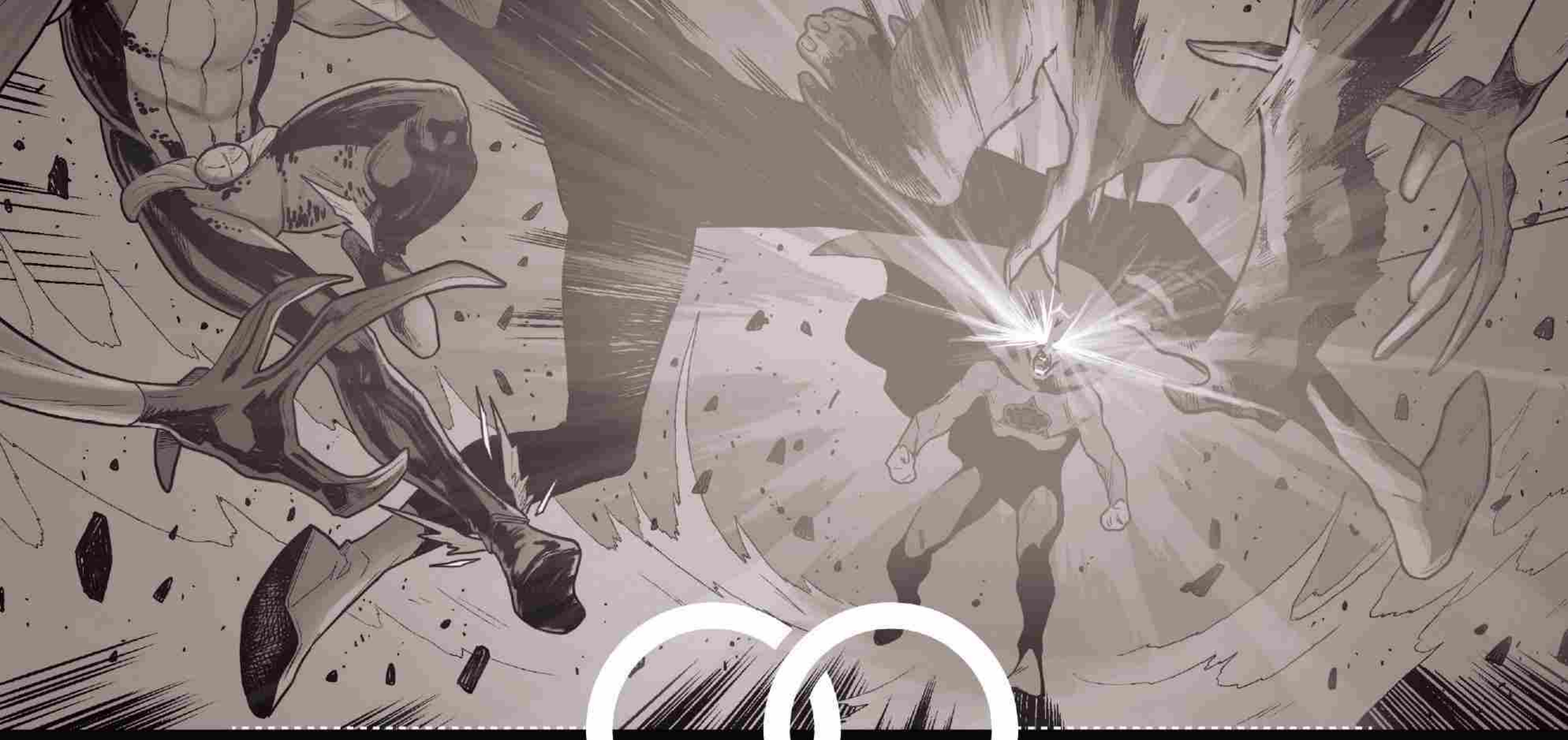
THERE'S ONLY TWO OPTIONS: YOU KILL OUR EARTH...OR YOUR OWN. ***SO YOU LISTEN TO ME!*** YOU'RE NOT KILLING OUR WORLD, NOT WHILE I STILL BREATHE, ***NOT WHILE ANY--***

THUNK!

I'M TIRED OF WAITING FOR THE INEVITABLE.

IF I MUST BECOME THIS THING, THEN LET IT BE AT A TIME OF MY OWN CHOOSING.

THIS IS IT.



“BLU’DAKORR”

WRITER: JONATHAN HICKMAN

ARTIST: VALERIO SCHITI

COLOR ARTISTS: FRANK MARTIN & PAUL MOUNTS
LETTERER: VC’s JOE CARAMAGNA
COVER ART: DUSTIN WEAVER & JASON KEITH

ASSISTANT EDITOR: JAKE THOMAS
EDITORS: TOM BREVOORT with WIL MOSS
EDITOR IN CHIEF: AXEL ALONSO
CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER: JOE QUESADA
PUBLISHER: DAN BUCKLEY
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: ALAN FINE

© 2014 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. WWW.MARVEL.COM

THE ILLUMINATI

BLACK BOLT
Celestial Messiah

NAMOR
Imperius Rex

REED RICHARDS
Universal Builder

IRON MAN
Master of Machines

BEAST
Mutant Genius

DOCTOR STRANGE
Sorcerer Supreme

BLACK PANTHER
King of the Dead

HULK
Strongest There Is

THE GREAT SOCIETY

BOUNDLESS

DR. SPECTRUM

SUN GOD

THE RIDER

THE JOVIAN

THE NORN

ARE YOU SELLING YOUR SOUL, STEPHEN?

I AM.

THEN.

HOW MUCH?

HOW MUCH OF YOUR SOUL DO YOU SELL THIS DAY?

ALL OF IT.

ALL. EVERYTHING.

THE GODHEAD.

YOURS...

IF YOU COULD PAY.

NO...

WHY? WHY DID YOU STOP?

I HELD IT IN MY HANDS...THE POWER TO CREATE AND DESTROY WORLDS...

WHY?

WE HAD A DEAL.

DEALS ARE SEALED WITH TRUST. A SURETY THAT WITHSTANDS THE TRANSACTION.

WHAT DO YOU CALL A DEAL WHERE ONE SIDE CANNOT MEET THE OBLIGATIONS?

NO DEAL AT ALL.

STEPHEN STRANGE...YOU ARE A DEBTOR. INSOLVENT.

A BANKRUPT LIAR.

HOW COULD YOU OFFER YOUR SOUL AS PAYMENT, SORCERER...

WHEN YOU LACK THE FULL MEASURE OF ONE?

NOW.

WE'RE COMMITTED NOW...HERE THEY COME!

STEPHEN!

WHAT'S THE STATUS OF HANK AND REED?

THEY'RE OUT...

BUT *I SEE* NO INTERNAL BLEEDING. AND NO BROKEN BONES OR HEAD TRAUMA.

THEY'LL BE FINE AS LONG AS--

AARGGGHHHH!

THIS ONE... HAS POWER BUT DOES NOT GUARD HIS MIND. WITHIN I SEE A POISONED HEART. I SEE TWISTED THOUGHTS.

I SEE PLANS. DARK PLANS.

I SEE THEIR WEAPON.

WE ALREADY KNOW ABOUT THE BOMB, NORN...

IT DOESN'T DO US ANY GOOD IF WE DON'T KNOW THE DAMN THING'S *LOCATION.*

FIND IT!

FARCASTING THE SPHERE YIELDS NO RESONANCE.

HOW DO YOU HIDE SOMETHING THAT IS *SOMETHING* AND NOT *NOTHING?*

UNLESS... YES...

THE *SECOND* SPHERE.

"THEY LEFT THE BOMB ON *THEIR* WORLD--AT THEIR INCURSION POINT."

FOR QUICK RETRIEVAL, NO DOUBT.
SPECTRUM! GO! NOW!
"YOU HAVE TO DESTROY THE BOMB!"
I'M ON IT...
BUT I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE, I SEE.

HURK!

YES. THE PAIN IS UNFORTUNATE... BUT THAT'S WHAT IT'S COME TO, HASN'T IT?

YOU FIGHT AND CLAW AND BITE FOR ANOTHER BREATH, BUT IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD. NOT AGAINST *ME*.

I'VE WATCHED YOU...HOW YOU FIGHT...HOW YOU THINK...

WHILE *YOU* HAVE *NO IDEA* WHAT YOU'RE FACING.

YOU'RE WRONG. I MAY NOT KNOW YOU...I MAY HAVE NEVER SEEN YOU BEFORE...

BUT I'VE SEEN *YOUR KIND*: FLAWED MEN FEIGNING NOBILITY.

ANY PAIN I FEEL IS OUT OF PITY...

I FEEL SORRY FOR YOU.

AND THE WRETCHED END YOU MUST HAVE WAITING FOR YOU.

YOU FIGHT WELL... POSSIBLY BETTER THAN I...

BUT IT WILL NOT BE ENOUGH FOR EITHER OF US. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THIS WAY.

OF ALL THE ***GREAT SOCIETY*** GATHERED HERE TODAY...

I AM THE LAST ONE YOU WANT TO WASTE PLATITUDES ON--WE BOTH KNOW HOW THIS ENDS.

SO WHY LIE?

ZZZTOOM

VERY WELL...

NO LIES.

VMMM

VMMM

THERE WILL BE DEATH HERE TODAY.

BI-BOOOOOM!

YUH...YES, THERE WILL BE...

BUT I DO NOT THINK *YOU OR I* STAND MUCH CHANCE OF SURVIVING.

HOW COULD ANYONE SURVIVE SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

THEN PERHAPS YOU SHOULD ASK YOURSELF...

IF IT'S THE END, AND THE END IS ASSURED...

DOES IT MATTER HOW WE GO?

IT DOES TO ME.

KSSSH

AND I AS WELL.

TO THE END, THEN... THE VERY EN--

OOOFFF!

RAARRRRRR!

LOOK AT YOU...POWERFUL... RECKLESS AND DANGEROUS.

THE PERFECT EMBODIMENT OF WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE TRAIT YOU "HEROES" SHARE.

YOU'RE ALL ***OUT OF CONTROL***...LIKE SOME CORRUPTED FORCE OF NATURE.

HULK NOT OUT OF CONTROL!

HULK NOT NATURE!

HULK IS THE STRONGEST ONE THERE IS!

TWUMMMP!

TWU—

MAYBE IN *YOUR* UNIVERSE, MONSTER...

RRR?

BUT NOT IN THIS ONE.

BLACK PANTHER: ENGAGED (STALEMATE)
NAMOR: ENGAGED (STALEMATE)
MISTER FANTASTIC: INACTIVE (UNCONSCIOUS)
BEAST: INACTIVE (UNCONSCIOUS)
HULK: INACTIVE (DEFEATED)
BLACK BOLT: DISENGAGED (OFFWORLD)
DOCTOR STRANGE: ENGAGED (UNKNOWN)

OH, GOD...

IRON MAN STATUS: ENGAGED
TARGET: BOUNDLESS.
(TRACKING SYSTEM / TARGETING OFFLINE)
(SYSTEM FAILURE IMMINENT)

DO YOU NEED ANY HELP, BOUNDLESS?

WOOSH

NOPE. I'M FINE.

MISTER *SMART PERSON* HERE THINKS HE'S *SO VERY SMART* THAT HE CAN OUTTHINK EVERYTHING.

BUT YOU CAN'T PROCESS AND RESPOND TO INFORMATION AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT, CAN YOU?

OF COURSE NOT.

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW GOOD YOUR HARDWARE IS, YOUR BRAIN JUST DOESN'T WORK THAT FAST, TIN MAN.

YOU SHOULD REALLY THINK ABOUT AN UPGRADE.

BECOME A BETTER MAN. BE SOMEONE ELSE.

BUT IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT, ISN'T IT? YOU'RE OUT OF TIME.

WE ALL ARE.

YOU DO NOT NEED AN ALL-SEEING EYE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT HAS HAPPENED HERE TODAY, SORCERER...

VIRTUE CANNOT BE BARTERED. YES, WE MAY DO EVIL THINGS FOR A GREATER GOOD...

THAT IS AN ACCEPTABLE PRICE...

BUT THE *UNTHINKABLE?*

THE VERY *IDEA* IS UNSPEAKABLE AND MUST NOT BE UTTERED.

SO I SAY NOW TO YOU...*OTHER THINGS.*

DO YOU KNOW THE WORDS OF THE ***BLACK PRIESTS***, SORCERER SUPREME?

HAVE YOU HEARD THEM?

K'OOTH UL D'AYN.

YOOL D'AYN HAT WHUURL.

THEN.

I AM DAMNED...AND WORSE THAN THAT, SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY I HAVE BECOME *LOST*.

TELL ME, WONG...IF I AM LOST, AND LACKING BOTH TIME AND MEANS... THEN WHAT HOPE DO I HAVE FOR REDEMPTION?

WE DO WORKS FOR MANY REASONS, MASTER.

I THINK, FOR A SEASON, YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO WALK THIS WORLD AND OTHERS WITH YOUR EYES CLOSED...

AND NOW YOU ASK ME--HOW CAN I CONTINUE IF I HAVE BECOME BLIND?

OPEN YOUR EYES, MY FRIEND. SEE THE THINGS THAT I KNOW ARE REAL...AND BELIEVE TO BE TRUE.

AND WHAT ARE THOSE?

YOU, STEPHEN.

SOMEWHERE IN THERE...YOU ARE STILL A GOOD MAN.

THEN LET THAT SLIVER OF WHAT I WAS BE ENOUGH...

AS ALL I SEE BEFORE ME NOW IS *THE ABYSS.*

AND WHAT LIVES THERE... WHICH WILL LIVE THROUGH ME.

K'OOTH LIL D'AYN.

YOOL--

--D'AYN HAT WHUURL.

DO YOU KNOW THESE WORDS, CHARLATAN?

OF COURSE YOU DON'T.

YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE *THE GIFT*, DO YOU?

I WOULD WAGER YOU'VE SPENT MOST OF YOUR LIFE ACQUIRING YOUR ITEMS OF POWER. AT BEST, YOU'RE A CURATOR...

NO!

BUT I THINK WE BOTH KNOW YOU'RE JUST A THIEF.

UNF!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE ***REAL*** POWER, CHILD?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE WHAT THE ***ART*** REALLY COSTS?

K'OOTH UL D'AYN...

"YOOL D'AYN HAT WHUURL."

AAIIEEE!

AARGHH!

ZORAN! LOOK OUT!

WHAT IS THIS?

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE, SORCERER?

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

GIVEN ALL I HAD LEFT-- I HAVE SACRIFICED WHAT LITTLE REMAINED...

ALL TO DESTROY YOUR WORLD...

AND SAVE MINE.

NEW AVENGERS

ZONE